

James Bruce will retire after having 42 years in the Kentucky House of Representatives.

I have known Representative Bruce for most of my life, and he taught me the ropes of government and politics early on when I served with him for one term in the Kentucky House from 1974–1975. Upon arriving in Frankfort, I learned quickly that Representative Bruce was one of the most effective legislators in Kentucky. He had the respect and admiration of his colleagues both Democrat and Republican, and when he told you something you could count on it. Many Governors have relied on Representative Bruce to get their agendas through the legislature.

Back home in the 9th District, he was legendary as someone who seldom if ever had an opponent during an election year, and who was faithful in delivering to his district. Much of the progress in agriculture, infrastructure, and economic development in Representative Bruce's district is in large part attributable to his skill, seniority, and effectiveness in Frankfort. I am confident that if you asked Representative Bruce about his success he would attribute it to his lovely wife Janie who has been at his side for nearly every trip between Hopkinsville and Frankfort and whom many have said that with Jim and Janie we had two for one.

Mr. Speaker, 2007 will mark the end of an era in the Kentucky General Assembly and the 9th House District will miss the presence of Representative James E. Bruce. He leaves large shoes behind to fill.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the University of Redlands on the centennial of its founding. From its first graduating class of three students to the present-day student body of 4,100, this school has developed a reputation as a top-quality small university.

At the turn of the last century, Redlands and the surrounding communities were home to the booming navel orange industry. The lure of agricultural wealth and the beautiful climate of the San Bernardino Valley attracted hundreds of sophisticated families from the East Coast and Midwest. Many of these "colonists" brought a tradition of fostering civic good works to their new home, and by the early 1900s they were seeking a new college to serve the community.

City residents subscribed more than \$50,000 and convinced the American Baptists to locate a new university in Redlands rather than Los Angeles. Chartered in 1907, the university admitted its first students in 1909 and graduated its first class—of three students—in 1910. It now boasts more than 45,000 alumni from around the world. More than 35 percent of its students are from historically under-represented groups.

The University of Redlands today has more than 200 professors teaching in 46 majors and programs, and an additional 200 adjunct fac-

ulty providing expertise to its School of Business and School of Education. Graduate programs include music, communicative disorders and geographic information systems, and a Doctorate of Leadership for Educational Justice. The university has been ranked among the top liberal-arts colleges in the West in a number of surveys.

I am proud to say that the relationship between the university and the community remains strong. The university was one of the first educational institutions in the country to require community service as a condition of graduation. Today, over 80,000 community service hours are provided annually by students to local, regional, national and international agencies and organizations. The innovative School of Education has prepared thousands of new teachers to serve our youth.

Mr. Speaker, the University of Redlands will soon begin a year-long celebration of its centennial, which will be highlighted by the entry of a university float in the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade, and will continue with a series of events commemorating 100 years of excellence and community involvement. Please join me in congratulating the trustees, faculty, staff and students on their achievement, and wish them well in their next 100 years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AUDIT ACT OF 2006

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Intelligence Community Audit Act of 2006.

Representative ZOE LOFGREN (D-CA) has joined me in introducing this important measure. I am also pleased to report that a companion bill will be introduced in the Senate by DANIEL K. AKAKA (D-IL), FRANK LAUTENBERG (D-NJ).

This bill, the Intelligence Community Audit Act of 2006, reaffirms the authority of the Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct for Congress audits and evaluations of the intelligence community—including audits and evaluations pertaining to financial transactions, programs, and information sharing and other activities. It also prescribes the security procedures that GAO must follow in conducting audits for congressional intelligence oversight committees of intelligence sources and methods, or covert actions.

There is a pressing need for this legislation. With the passage of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, the federal government now encompasses 19 distinct components that have intelligence responsibilities. Ensuring that these components—which range from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to the Department of Homeland Security to the Department of Treasury—are cooperating and performing their missions effectively is critical to our national security and winning the war on terrorism.

But it is not just federal coordination and cooperation which is at issue. There is also a pressing need for state and local law enforce-

ment officials to get the information they need to protect our constituents. Unfortunately, this has not happened. In a recent survey, the National Governor's Association noted that fully 70 percent of state homeland security directors are dissatisfied with the specificity of homeland security information they receive from federal sources, and the fully 55 percent who are disappointed with its actionable quality. Our state law enforcement officials need information to protect our constituents.

And we in Congress need information to conduct our oversight functions. The availability of information to appropriate congressional committees is a paramount concern for this nation's system of checks and balances. The ability of the GAO to conduct thorough and nonpartisan reviews is well known. But what is not well known is the hurdles they sometimes face in conducting oversight. Earlier this year, shortly after GAO released a report on federal government policies relating to the sharing of terrorism-related and sensitive but unclassified (SBU) information (GAO-06-385). Specifically, the DNI declined to comment on a draft version of the report because it considered GAO's work in this non-sensitive area a "review of intelligence activities" that was "beyond GAO's purview." But this bill makes it clear that the DNI cannot evade Congressional oversight by lumping the sharing of unclassified information and other non-sensitive matters together with the kinds of intelligence activities that understandably must be held to a stricter standard.

This bill makes it clear that Congress has a real and continuing interest in reviews of the basic functions of the intelligence community, such as sharing of information with state and local law enforcement officials and transportation security. The events of 911 made it clear that systemic weaknesses in these areas can cost lives.

I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this bill.

AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY AND SECURITY OF LEBANON AND THE LEBANESE PEOPLE

SPEECH OF

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the amended version of H. Res. 1017, introduced by my colleague TOM LANTOS, which affirms support for the sovereignty and security of Lebanon and the Lebanese people.

Mr. Speaker, what this resolution now does is urge the Government of Lebanon to request assistance from the international community for military and other forms of support in securing their border with Syria, in order to end the flow of weapons to Hezbollah.

I want to thank Chairman HYDE for his instrumental role in negotiating language that addresses these concerns and enables the Government of Lebanon to engage and work closely with the international community so as to prevent another crisis in the region.

This resolution recognizes the courageous efforts made by many Lebanese in their independent uprising on March 14, 2005 and commends the democratically elected Government of Lebanon for their ongoing efforts to restore